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Thursday, November 8, 2012



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Not so fast, Mr. President

The glow of victory will quickly fade as Obama's next challenge will be to get the U.S. fiscal house in order **PAGE 10**

MOOSEHEADS ATOP CHL RANKINGS

AFTER TWO WEEKS OF NO. 2
STATUS, HERD ENDORSED AS
COUNTRY'S TOP TEAM **PAGE 26**



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Thursday, November 8, 2012



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New school board chair pledges to protect students

Classroom challenges.

Board in place, facing a bare-bones budget

The newly elected chair of the Halifax Regional School Board agrees with his predecessor on a crucial point.

Any more government cuts to education, and students will pay the price.

Returning for his third term on the board, Gin Yee was elected to the chair position by fellow members in Wednesday's swearing-in ceremony in Dartmouth, beating out Sheryl Blumenthal-Harrison, one of only two returning members.

"In the last two years the province has cut our funding and we've tried our best to avoid them reaching the classroom. Some of them have," said Yee. "But if that comes we'll do our best to minimize those cuts from affecting the students."

Former chair Irvine Carvery, who lost his seat to Melinda Daye, attended the ceremony to show support for

Quoted



"We have to be open to the public and be prepared to listen and be prepared to work hard for 12 months."

Gin Yee, newly elected chair of the Halifax Regional School Board

the incoming board. He has a much grimmer outlook if cuts are on the horizon.

"If that happens, the board is going to be really challenged," said Carvery.

Beyond that, Yee said, he has his sights set on replacing outgoing board superintendent Carole Olsen, who's now the province's deputy minister of education.

Yee said the candidate search should be countrywide and be handled by a third party.

With all but three inexperienced members, the board faces big-time challenges from declining enrolment to implementing new curriculum. But Yee said the situation is similar to the last board.

"Orientation is crucial," he

said. "We've had this situation before with the new board and we'll have to do it again. We'll have to do it with hard work."

Rookie member Steven Warburton was elected vice-chair. The communications specialist stressed the importance of members embracing technology and its place in the classroom. One of his first priorities, he said, would be to make the board's website more user friendly with the goal of getting more public input.

He said he sensed a good vibe, with members' priorities being focused squarely on students.

"It's our children and they're our future, so it's up to us all to chip in," he said.

ANDREW RANKIN/METRO

GONE TO THE DOGS

Jacob Johnston of the Dalhousie Tigers, left, and Shawn O'Donnell of the Saint Mary's Huskies battle for the puck along the boards during Atlantic University Sport hockey action at the Halifax Forum on Wednesday night. O'Donnell scored twice and Saint Mary's posted a 7-4 victory. Story, page 25. JEFF HARPER/METRO



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New jobs

Opposition parties not fully sold on announcement

Opposition Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil said Wednesday's announcement of 440 new jobs over five years from a Calgary-based engineering firm makes sense if the positions materialize, but it also raises concerns.

"Are you subsidizing one employer to take employees from someone else?" McNeil said. "I think that is what we will have to look at as it unfolds."

Progressive Conservative Leader Jamie Baillie said he doesn't buy the NDP premier's assertion that the deal would help Nova Scotians return home to work.

"If the premier were serious about that, he wouldn't be picking winners and losers between engineering firms," Baillie said. "He'd be supporting the work of all Nova Scotia companies that want to bring people home."

The deal was facilitated through Nova Scotia Business Inc. President and CEO Stephen Lund said if the program reaches its full potential, the province will benefit through millions of dollars being injected into the economy.

Projex's clients include Suncor, Devon, EnCana, Nexon and Husky Oil.

THE CANADIAN PRESS AND METRO



Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil
METRO FILE



Premier Darrell Dexter speaks with Veronica Nicksy, a fourth-year engineering student at Dalhousie University, following a funding announcement for Projex at the Ralph M. Medjuck Building on the school's campus Wednesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Calgary-based company could bring 440 jobs to Halifax

Work aplenty.

Province offers millions to company in return for hundreds of high-paying positions



ANDREW RANKIN
andrew.rankin@metronews.ca

A Calgary-based engineering company will get up to \$11.4 million in provincial-government funding over five years if the company adds 440 new engineering jobs to its Halifax office over that period.

The Projex Technologies

Quoted

"It's a magnet to bring people back into this area. We're going to be that stimulus to help get them back."

Barry Brad, Projex president and CEO

Ltd. office is located on Bayers Road and currently employs 40 people. The outfit was set up last year because of a labour shortage in Calgary where the company specializes in serving the province's booming oil-and-gas industry.

Premier Darrell Dexter made the announcement at Dalhousie University on Wednesday.

The agreement does not

require the company to hire Nova Scotian engineers.

The positions will vary, with the average salary being \$90,000.

Dexter said the program is a start in the province's plan to lure top-level talent back home from Western Canada.

"It's money this government gets back if they create good, high paying, long-term jobs," said Dexter. "In the

first five years, these jobs will generate \$18 million in direct taxation, that's \$50 million in payroll."

Barry Brand, Projex president and CEO, was on hand for the announcement. He said Halifax was in competition with locations in Asia as well as other Atlantic provinces. The city, he said, was the most attractive location both for its talent pool and for the government support being offered.

"We have a great opportunity to provide these jobs to people across Canada," he said.

He added there is a great demand for the positions.

1 NEWS

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Downtown is challenged, but not doomed: Advocates

Reaction. Closure of ela! eatery doesn't mean city centre isn't open for business



RUTH DAVENPORT
ruth.davenport@metronews.ca

Two stakeholders in the downtown core say the closure of a well-known restaurant reflects certain "alarming trends," but doesn't mean downtown Halifax is closed for business.

The owners of ela! Greek Taverna closed its downtown location at the corner of Argyle and Blowers on Tuesday.

Owner Costa Elles told Metro Halifax the downtown has become "just a place to go partying," resulting in a loss of business.

The executive director of the Downtown Business Commission says he doesn't completely agree with Elles.

"If you look at the businesses along (Argyle), there's certainly some that do cater more to a late-night crowd, but there are others that are much more about fine dining as well," said Paul MacKinnon.

Tough business

"It's still one of our great strengths, the number and quality of our restaurants here. Downtown is far from done."

Paul MacKinnon, Downtown Business Commission

MacKinnon says business owners are suffering because of the steady migration of businesses and homeowners to the suburbs, but adds downtown remains the destination of choice for discriminating foodies.

"(Elles's) business model has changed a bit and they're more focused on family dining, which isn't really the main market for downtown dining," he said. "If you're going for a special evening, you're going downtown."

Ela! will continue to run its other two locations at Bayers Lake and Dartmouth Crossing.

The co-owner of the Wooden Monkey says business has been affected by the economic downturn, but still strong enough to prompt her downtown eat-



Emma May, a server for the Wooden Monkey, poses for a photo at the restaurant's busy downtown location on Wednesday afternoon. JEFF HARPER/METRO

ery to expand.

"We have a really great lunch crowd. There's enough business people downtown who go out to eat," said Christine Bower. "We're a little different with our food

options and with our gluten-free offerings, so that might help us a little."

Bower says there are plenty of challenges facing downtown businesses, including limited parking and

late-night vandalism.

MacKinnon says there's no question downtown business owners could use a hand from the city.

"It's not just one thing that's going to solve the

problem," he said. "It's more a matter of the city really trying to understand the unique character of the downtown ... and saying we need to do things a bit differently."

Storm headed for N.S. is 'nothing spectacular'



A car plows through rising waters on Waverley Road near Micmac Drive amid heavy rains brought by Superstorm Sandy in Dartmouth last week. JEFF HARPER/METRO

A little bad weather is coming to Nova Scotia, but it's nothing out of the ordinary for early November.

Environment Canada meteorologist Tracey Talbot said that a low-pressure system moving up the Eastern Seaboard would bring strong winds and steady rain to the province.

"It's going to be continuing through much of the day Thursday and overnight Thursday night," said Talbot on Wednesday afternoon. "For most of the province, we're looking at a range of 20 to 40 millimetres."

Downpour

51 mm

The amount of rainfall that Hurricane Sandy brought to Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

The system prompted wind warnings for Yarmouth and Shelburne counties, but Talbot said the winds were expected to fall below the warning threshold by Thursday morning.

In Halifax, Talbot said a total of 20 to 30 millimetres of

rain could be expected by Friday morning.

"It's something to watch out for, but it's not at the high end of some of the rains we've received in recent years," she said.

Talbot said the current system could be considered a typical fall Nor'easter, and nothing like Superstorm Sandy, which caused localized flooding and power outages in the Maritimes as a post-tropical depression last week.

"It'll be nothing spectacular for us here," she said.

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO

December fire

Congregation rebuilds Cape Breton church

The congregation at a church in Cape Breton that was destroyed by fire 10 months ago is hoping they can celebrate Christmas in their new church.

Johnena MacLellan, the

congregation's clerk of session, says the new church will look a lot like the old one. Rebuilding the East Lake Ainslie Presbyterian Church costs between \$300,000 and \$400,000.

Insurance is covering much of the cost of rebuilding, but the congregation is also doing some fundraising.

The congregation was founded in 1826.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Found in Salmon River

Missing Truro woman's body identified

Police say they have identified the body of a woman who had been missing from her central Nova Scotia community since Saturday. Police say in a statement that the remains of 38-year-old

Anne Marie Harvey were discovered in a wooded area in Salmon River.

Insp. Rob Hearn of the Truro police says an autopsy will be conducted today to determine the cause of death. Foul play is not suspected.

Harvey was last seen walking in Truro on the weekend, and her friends and family said it was out of character for her to remain away from home. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Anne Marie Harvey POLICE HANDOUT

Criminal negligence

Accused in drug death to remain in prison

This week Kyle Fredericks will remain at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility. Fredericks is charged in the 2010 death of Joshua Graves.

KINGS COUNTY REGISTER

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Minor injuries. Woman facing charges after stabbing on Gottingen St.

A Halifax woman is scheduled to appear in court Thursday, facing charges related to a stabbing in the Gottingen Street area.

Police received a report of an injured man in an apartment in the 2400 block of Gottingen Street around 4 a.m. Wednesday. Responding officers found a 68-year-old man suffering from a minor stab wound.

Police arrested a woman who had fled from the apartment as she tried to leave the building.

Halifax Regional Police spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages said officers used a conducted energy weapon, or stun gun, to make the arrest. "The suspect was armed with a knife

The accused

- Roxanne Barton, 58, is facing charges of aggravated assault, assault with a weapon, weapons possession, and breach of a court order.

at that time and she refused to let the weapon go, so the officer had to use the CEW to gain compliance," he said.

Bourdages said the woman was treated in hospital per standard policy. The victim was also treated in hospital for his injuries. Bourdages said the incident is not considered random.

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO

Hydroelectric project

Muskat Falls key for growing energy needs: Report

A report released Wednesday by the Newfoundland and Labrador government says the Muskrat Falls hydro-

electric project is needed to meet energy demand, which experts predict will rise in the future.

The report says those needs will be driven by projects such as Vale's nickel processing plant in Long Harbour, which is expected to begin production next year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dexter gets his man again in the White House

Election fever. Premier happy to see Obama re-elected president of the U.S. Tuesday



ANDREW RANKIN
andrew.rankin@metronews.ca

Premier Darrell Dexter was hoping Barack Obama would come through, and after the high drama of the U.S. election played out Tuesday night, he got what he wanted.

"The New Democrats would be much more aligned with the U.S. Democrats," admitted a diplomatic Dexter, with a smile, to reporters on Wednesday in Halifax.

Like Obama, Dexter points out he came into power when the world economy was approaching financial collapse. In evaluating Obama's victory, the premier said he's most impressed with how the president weathered a dreadful set of circumstances that would have crippled lesser men.

"He managed to come



U.S. President Barack Obama flashes a thumbs-up as he leaves the stage with Vice-President Joe Biden at his election-night party early Wednesday in Chicago. M. SPENCER GREEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

through those very painful years, and yet because people could see a way forward, they were willing to re-elect him and that's a great tribute to

him to be able to communicate that message clearly and effectively."

By no means out of the woods yet, the U.S. is facing

Quoted

"I think there is a great deal of goodwill for Obama. I think a lot of anti-American sentiment that Canadians have gets parked with Obama." Premier Darrell Dexter

trillions of dollars in debt and a broken health-care system. But the premier said the freshly re-elected president has more freedom in his second and final term, where he can focus more on his priorities of fixing the health-care system and the economy, and less on pandering to different interest groups.

Although it's more difficult to make a direct link between Halifax's and the U.S.'s economy, Dexter said ultimately the entire country depends on the prosperity of its biggest trading partner. He added he believes Obama, a gifted mediator, will make his mark.

"The fate of the Canadian economy is still entwined with the U.S. economy," said Dexter.



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Minister hopes ship salvage can resume

MV Miner. Parker makes no apologies for enforcing health-and-safety regulations

Natural Resources Minister Charlie Parker says he directed officials from his department Wednesday to contact Bennington Group, which has given the provincial government an ultimatum while walking away from the salvage of the wrecked bulk carrier MV Miner.

"I have directed my staff to contact them, to send an email if we can make contact at least that way, just to more than confirm we are willing to sit down with them," he said.

Parker said Bennington Group represents the best option for removing the derelict ship from the shore of Scatarie Island.

"Hopefully, we will soon be back at the table so we can find a way they can be back to work."

New York-based Benning-

ton Group made good Tuesday on an ongoing threat to walk away from the MV Miner, but left the door open for possibly returning in two weeks.

Ken Phelps, an environmental consultant, said the straw that broke the camel's back came when the Department of Labour informed them Thursday that they couldn't use a barge secured to the hull of the wreck to allow engineers on board to make an assessment of the vessel.

CAPE BRETON POST

Bureaucracy

Chief operating officer Abe Shah said the barge incident is just the latest in a long series of bureaucratic obstacles.

- Shah told the Cape Breton Post he wants all of the government departments to get together and come up with a plan and rule-book that inform him of what they want him to do.



We've got the dirt on the skating oval ...

Work continued on Wednesday for the opening of a new season for the Emera Skating Oval, which is expected to be ready for skaters sometime next month. Tens of thousands of people use the skating oval annually.

ATANDA TATTRIE/FOR METRO

May be living in Halifax

Public help sought in search for wanted man

Police are asking for the public's help in locating a man wanted on an outstanding warrant and who is a known associate of well-known Halifax crime figure Jimmy Melvin Jr.

Police have not been able to locate Andrew Jason Hudder, 26, after a Canada-wide parole warrant was issued for his arrest on Saturday. Hudder was released from a federal prison late last year after serving over two years in jail for a string of arsons from 2006.

Police believe Hudder is still living in Halifax and describe him as six-foot-one, 165 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes. Contact Halifax police or Crime Stoppers with info. METRO



Andrew Jason Hudder HANDOUT



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Carney test drives new \$20

Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney hands over a new polymer \$20 bank note that he used to make a purchase at the museum gift shop after a launch ceremony at the War Museum in Ottawa on Wednesday. There will be about 800 million of the plastic \$20 bills, which feature the Vimy Memorial, in circulation — as many as all other denominations put together. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

New storm threatens New York, New Jersey

Second surge. Just under a million people still without power in the region as weaker storm moves in

Coastal residents of New York and New Jersey faced new warnings to evacuate their homes, and airlines cancelled hundreds of flights, as a new storm arrived Wednesday, more than a week after Superstorm Sandy left dozens dead and millions without power.

Forecasters said the latest storm appeared weaker than first thought, but it still carried the threat of high winds, storm surges and even snow that could cause further damage to the already weakened infrastructure of the country's most densely-populated region. Rain and wet snow started falling in New York City around midday.

"I am waiting for the locusts and pestilence next,"



Volunteer Karina Ayubi, left, joins National Guardsman Brandon Kyle on Wednesday in Little Ferry, N.J., as they distribute blankets donated by the American Red Cross to residents without power as a Nor'easter approaches in the wake of Superstorm Sandy. Major airlines cancelled flights in and out of the New York City area ahead of the storm. KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said. Public works crews with heavy machinery worked to build up dunes to protect the battered shoreline.

More than half a million homes and businesses

remained without power as temperatures hit freezing at night, and finding tens of thousands of people emergency housing — in some cases, for the long term — was the greatest challenge.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg ordered police to use loudspeakers to warn vulnerable residents, many of them in low-income public housing, about evacuating.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Now the hard part: Obama must confront the C-word

Compromise. It's said to be key to Obama's success in second term because GOP still holds tight grip on House of Representatives

What's in store for victorious U.S. President Barack Obama?

A brutal ideological fight, for one thing.

Obama told Americans he has never been so optimistic.

"The best is yet to come," he said, ticking off goals of reforming the tax system, easing climate change and overhauling immigration laws.

"Not so fast, Mr. President," came the response from Republicans, who still hold their grip on the House of Representatives.

So the challenge for Obama is mastering the C-word — compromise.

The glow of victory will quickly fade despite the president's surprisingly easy win of a second term — even though he had led the country through a period in which the economy suffered its biggest downturn since the 1930s' Great Depression, and stubbornly high unemployment dipped only slightly below 8 per cent in the final months of the campaign.

"The voters have not endorsed the failures or excesses of the president's first term," said a frosty Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell.

"Now it's time for the president to propose solutions that actually have a chance of passing the Republican-controlled House."

Obama's narrow lead in the popular vote will make it difficult for him to claim a sweeping mandate.

With returns from 94 per cent of the nation's precincts, Obama had 58 million, or 50 per cent of the popular vote.

Challenger Mitt Romney had 56 million, or 48 per cent.

Romney tried to set a more conciliatory tone.

"At a time like this, we can't risk partisan bickering," Romney said.

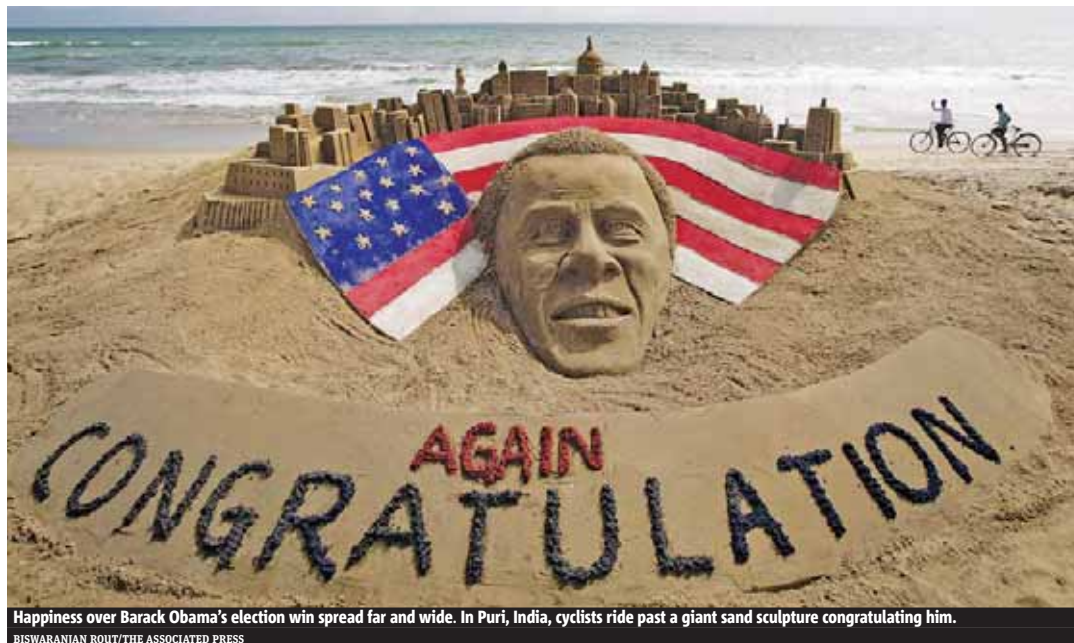
"Our leaders have to reach across the aisle to do the people's work."

As he spoke in Chicago after his victory, Obama forecast the big fight to come, saying it will "inevitably stir up passions."

"That won't change after tonight, and it shouldn't," he added. "These arguments we have are a mark of our liberty."

That puts a best face on what will be a bitter legislative scrap.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Happiness over Barack Obama's election win spread far and wide. In Puri, India, cyclists ride past a giant sand sculpture congratulating him.

BISWARANJAN ROY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The GOP. No longer will aging white men help the Republican party

What now for the Republicans?

The party is at a crossroads, confronted with an evolving U.S. electorate that is unceremoniously rejecting its vision for the country.

Barack Obama handily won the votes of women, Hispanics, African-Americans and young Americans.

Mitt Romney won aging white men — a dwindling voting bloc.

"We were wrong," top Republican Newt Gingrich said.

Quoted

"We have plenty of highly-achieved minorities in our party."

Talk show host Rush Limbaugh, dismissing suggestions the party is too white

He and others in the Republican brain trust "misunderstood what was happening in the country," he said on television.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The 51st state

Puerto Ricans eye statehood

A majority of Puerto Ricans have opted for the first time to become the 51st U.S. state in what jubilant members of the pro-statehood party call a resounding sign that the island territory is on the road to losing its second-class status.

But Tuesday's vote comes with an asterisk: the island remains bitterly-divided over its relationship to the U.S., and many question the validity of the referendum. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Turnout 57.5%

So why did voters stay home?

A drop in voter turnout didn't keep President Barack Obama from winning.

In most states, the numbers were even lower than in 2004, said Curtis Gans, director of American University's Center for the Study of the American Electorate.

"This was a major plunge in turnout nationally," said Gans, who estimated about 126 million Americans voted, for an overall turnout rate of about 57.5 per cent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The economy. Obama's next challenge is pulling back from the fiscal cliff

Can Barack Obama put the U.S. fiscal house in order — and help the global recovery?

"There will be a period of unease as we now turn from the politicking to the heavy lifting," said Paul Taylor, chief investment officer of BMO Asset Management Inc.

Some Canadians warn the U.S. is heading toward the so-called fiscal cliff, which would be reached if gridlock in Washington prevents a deal to extend about \$600

billion US in tax cuts and spending beyond Dec. 31.

Canadian exporters will still face uncertainty over the U.S. economy, which has had an impact on Canadian manufacturing and forestry firms contending with a decline in U.S. housing.

"If you're a Canadian exporter outside the energy sector then your options aren't great," said Capital Economics' chief U.S. economist, Paul Ashworth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Activists succeed

Gay marriage, pot pass the test

In Tuesday's voting, Maine and Maryland became the first states to approve same-sex marriage by popular vote.

And Washington state and Colorado set up a showdown with authorities by legalizing recreational use of marijuana.

The outcomes were a milestone for persistent advocacy groups and activists who for decades have pressed the causes of gay rights and drug decriminalization.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Recession fears

Now get to work, says Flaherty

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty is urging U.S. politicians to get back to work quickly on resolving their budget crisis now that the election is over.

Failure, he warns, would plunge America and Canada into recession.

Flaherty has voiced concern before about the so-called fiscal cliff, but the re-election of Barack Obama and a right-wing Republican House has led to new fears.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Showbiz

Some angry stars are all a-Twitter

For showbiz celebrities, it was the greatest show on Earth — love it or hate it.

Mariah Carey was so excited about Barack Obama's re-election that she released a song, Bring it on Home, in his honour.

The pop star also said on Twitter: "Congratulations to our beloved

President Barack Obama, our spectacular First Lady Michelle Obama & the adorable Malia & Sasha.

We love you!"

Mitt Romney supporter Elisabeth Hasselbeck sent out a conciliatory tweet urging a divided U.S. to become one.

Romney supporter, real-estate magnate and reality-show star Donald Trump issued a tweet tirade: "This election is a total sham and a travesty. We are not a democracy! Let's fight like hell and stop this great and

disgusting injustice! The world is laughing at us."

But NBC News anchor Brian Williams said

Trump's tweets show he has "driven well past the last exit to relevance and veered into something closer to irrelevance."

Trump tweeted a retort on Wednesday saying Williams "knows that I think his newscast has become totally boring so he took a shot at me last night."

He added in another tweet: "Wouldn't you love to have my ratings?"

He deleted tweets calling for revolution and incorrectly saying Obama had lost the popular vote.

In a new tweet Wednesday, he said the election was "the Republicans to win" but Romney hadn't connected with the people.

Romney supporter Ted Nugent ranted on Twitter that the country is doomed. "Pimps whores & welfare brats & their soulless supporters have a president to destroy America," he wrote.

Beyoncé gloated, posting a photo that read, "Take that Mitches." It was accompanied by a photo of her in a "Texans for Obama" T-shirt.

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In this Oct. 30 photo, Syrian rebels carry a wounded comrade in a blanket away from the frontline in the town of Harem, Syria. Despite two weeks of attacking a Roman-era citadel in which pro-Assad militia are dug in, the rebels failed to secure the town. MUSTAFA KARALI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

U.K. plans direct talks with Syrian rebels as violence escalates

Damascus clashes.

U.K. PM Cameron says Obama win is an opportunity to do more to stop ongoing conflict in war-torn Syria

Syrian rebels made a new push into Damascus on Wednesday, clashing heavily with troops in the rebellious suburbs of the capital and firing mortars at a presidential palace and a Palestinian refugee camp, activists said.

The regime stronghold of Damascus has seen a surge in violence this week with some of the fiercest

clashes in months. In recent days, opposition fighters also stepped up assaults on high-ranking supporters of President Bashar Assad in the capital.

The rebels also have been trying to break the resistance of a pro-government Palestinian faction, which could drag the half-million Palestinian refugees in Syria into the civil war.

The new challenge from rebels in the capital comes as the U.S. and Britain take steps to bolster the fragmented Syrian opposition. British Prime Minister David Cameron said his government planned to change its policy and deal directly with opposition military lead-

ers. Previously, Britain has had contacts only with exile groups and political opposition figures inside Syria.

He urged newly re-elected U.S. President Barack Obama to join the Britain in opening direct talks with rebel fighters, and said they must do more to end the civil war that has killed more than 36,000, according to activists' tallies.

Rebels fired several mortar rounds at the Syrian president's residence in central Damascus on Wednesday morning but failed to hit their mark, said Bassam al-Dada, an adviser to the commander of the Free Syrian Army.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Health

Assad regime seizing medical aid, claims Syrian medical group

President Bashar Assad's regime is confiscating much of the medical aid that the Syrian Arab Red Crescent in Damascus tries to distribute, a spokesman for a Syrian medical-aid group said Wednesday.

Dr. Tawfik Chamaa, a Syrian doctor in Geneva and spokesman for the Union of Syrian Medical Relief Organizations, said that as much as "95 per cent of everything that is sent to Syrian Red Crescent headquarters in Damascus goes to support the Syrian regime." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syria. Western efforts to push out Assad ramp up in wake of U.S. election

Western efforts to oust Syrian President Bashar Assad shifted dramatically Wednesday, with Britain announcing it will deal directly with rebel military leaders. A Turkish official also said his nation has held discussions with NATO allies, including the United States, on using Patriot missiles to protect a safe zone inside Syria.

The developments came within hours of President Barack Obama's re-election. U.S. allies anticipate a new, bolder approach from the American leader to end the deadlocked civil war that has killed thousands of people since an upris-

ing against Assad began in March 2011.

U.S. officials said Patriots or other assets could be deployed to Turkey's side of the border for defensive purposes against possible incursions, mortar strikes and the like.

But Washington isn't prepared to send any such equipment inside Syria, which would amount to a violation of sovereignty and a significant military escalation, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly on the matter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lost WWI medal finds its way back home

Auctioned on eBay.
Bike-club member returns native soldier's Victory Medal to its rightful owners

The medal awarded to a battle-scarred First World War soldier has been returned, almost a century later, to his family in the Mohawk community where he lived.

In 1919, Pte. James Beauvais returned from Europe with shrapnel in his chest and limited use of his left arm. Like all victorious Canadian and British soldiers, he was awarded a Victory Medal before being discharged. The postwar period was filled with tragedy.

He suffered from chronic physical pain and emotional anguish that would be described today as post-traumatic stress disorder or "shell shock."

He abandoned his wife and young daughter and drifted out West. Within a decade Beauvais was dead. He was buried in a modest grave, more than 2,000 kilometres from home.

Now his medal has completed a long journey home.

It was returned several weeks ago to his great-niece, Lynn Beauvais, at the Royal Canadian Legion branch in Kahnawake, Que.

The story of its path home includes a motorcycle club and eBay.



A Victory Medal awarded to First World War soldier Pte. James Beauvais is shown by his great-niece Lynn Beauvais on Wednesday in Kahnawake, Que.
PAUL CHASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Normand Carrieres, a part-time biker in the Rolling Thunder club, routinely checks the online auction sites for bike parts, medals and military memorabilia.

The medal, listed "WW1 Victory Medal to Native Canadian, Pte. James Beauvais," jumped out. He had read Johnny Beauvais' book "Kahnawake: A Mohawk Look at Canada, Adventures of Big John Canadian."

Carrieres won the medal with four seconds left in the eBay auction. After the auction, Carrieres heard that the Beauvais were looking for the person who had won it. He contacted the local the Eastern Door, and set up a meeting with Lynn Beauvais.

Lynn Beauvais was moved to near tears when Carrieres

returned the family heirloom.

The return of the medal, as well as the recently received documents, have given the Beauvais a new connection to the relative who left Kahnawake over 90 years ago and never returned.

"It felt like he was making it happen," Lynn Beauvais said of the discovery.

The final step for her and her sisters will be to transport James' remains back to Kahnawake. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Winnipeg

First Nations students ousted from school

Children evacuated from a flooded Manitoba First Nation are being dispersed again — this time for their education..

The 85 children from Lake St. Martin First Nation were among hundreds of community residents who were taken to Winnipeg after severe flooding in the spring of 2011.

The kids have been going to school together in a rented building in Winni-

peg, leased by the federal government. But the building was found by city fire officials last week to have violated fire-code regulations.

In a written statement, the department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development said it had to ensure the kids could continue their education.

The children are now going to different public schools — a move that has upset the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, who stated in a letter to the federal government that they will suffer from discrimination.

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Intervention is key

Teach kids
not to stand
by: Expert

Dr. Claire Crooks CONTRIBUTED

There's no quick fix to stop bullying, but appealing to kids' empathy and urging them not to stand passively by is a good start, says a researcher on the subject.

Dr. Claire Crooks, who studies bullying at the University of Windsor and Toronto's CAMH Centre for Prevention Science, says depriving bullies of their audience is key. Most bullying occurs in front of peers and is committed by kids looking for attention. They also do it to make people laugh, which makes them feel powerful. Young bystanders who stand up to bullies or report bullying to adults are an effective deterrent, she says.

"Research is finding that kids who intervene in bullying are more likely to say their parents expect them to do that," she said. "So, just by talking to your children about what you expect them to do when someone else is getting picked on, that can have an impact."

It's more difficult to understand the role of the online bystander.

"It's easier for kids to cyberbully than bully because there's that anonymity," she said. "One thing's becoming clear — with cyberbullying, there really needs to be a joint response with parents, communities and police. So many of these cases are crossing the line into cybercrime."

JESSICA SMITH/METRO IN TORONTO

Engaging with kids

"The question parents need to be asking is not just how do I know if my kid's being bullied, it's how do I know if my child is involved in bullying? How do I know what role my child plays when others are being bullied? Those are the kinds of conversations we should be having with our children."

Dr. Claire Crooks

Name that online bully and ban anonymity: MP

Cyberbullying. It's a life-and-death issue for some kids and many people want to do something to stop it. But what will work?

JESSICA SMITH
Metro in Toronto

After reading some vile, anonymous online comments, Conservative MP Dean Del Mastro has decided the government should consider ending people's ability to post anonymously on the Internet.

"One of the best ways to end online and electronic bullying, libel and slander would be to force people posting hurtful comments to properly identify themselves," he posted on his Facebook page on Oct. 25.

He brought the same message to the House of Commons

when he suggested banning anonymity wouldn't get in the way of free speech.

"While I believe firmly that the right to free speech must be strongly defended and protected, I also believe it should be backed up by the common decency to stand by one's words as opposed to hiding behind online anonymity," he said.

Del Mastro declined Metro's request for an interview on the issue, so it is unclear what specific actions he thinks the government should take or how banning Internet anonymity could be enforced.

Nathalie Des Rosiers, a lawyer with the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, says judges would strike down a law that prohibits anonymity online.

"It's difficult to imagine how we can protect freedom of expression without protecting some form of anonymity with websites and comments online," she said. "It's essential to recognize that good intentions

of having people stand by their words chill and prevent many useful expressions that cannot be done publicly."

People choose to be anonymous online for many constructive reasons, she said. They include being a whistleblower, reporting incidents of bullying or just having a social or political conversation that they would not want their families, friends or employers to know about.

"In my view, the real answer to vitriolic, terrible, nasty comments on the web is not to engage with them," she said. "The people who do vitriolic things — their greatest reward is when we respond and give them an additional platform."

Des Rosiers suggests teaching kids to be "resilient" against bullying would help them in a way that wouldn't deprive them of their rights.

Del Mastro isn't the only politician talking about bullying. The NDP is asking for the federal government to strike an all-party committee to create a National Anti-Bullying Strategy. MP Dany Morin said the idea would be to consider the best means of combatting bullying and then create a plan. But at this point he is unwilling to get into specifics about what the strategy might contain.

A senate committee is studying cyberbullying, but the report, originally scheduled for release in October, has been delayed.

Rights and responsibilities

Privacy not a shield from the law

The right to privacy doesn't extend to anonymous bullies, Ontario's privacy commissioner says.

"Obviously, I'm a great believer in privacy — I'm the privacy commissioner — but I think you forfeit your right to privacy when you go online to victimize someone else," Ann Cavoukian said. "Privacy isn't there to enable you to do unacceptable behaviour that is harmful to others."

Cavoukian urges parents, teachers and students to discuss bullying publicly, while respecting the privacy rights of the victim. For example, teachers can help deter bullying by publicizing incidents and the consequences perpetrators face, but refrain from naming the bullies and victims.

She believes police have all the laws they need to police bullying when it becomes criminal and trace anonymous cyberbullies.

To hear more of her views, see her anti-bullying video at ipc.on.ca.

JESSICA SMITH/METRO IN TORONTO

'Caustic scourge'



"I read the comments of hundreds of anonymous posters online and was frankly shocked by the level of vitriolic hatred and personal attacks that were freely posted. Anonymous online attacks are, in my view,

cowardly but they are no less hurtful and represent a caustic scourge that is harming too many in our society."

MP Dean Del Mastro

Targeting cybercrime

Give us more disclosure: RCMP officer



Tad Milmine CONTRIBUTED

On his days off, RCMP Const. Tad Milmine of Surrey, B.C., talks to small groups of students about bullying. On the job, he'd like to have more power to uncover cybercriminals more quickly.

"I'm not saying divulge everyone's personal information — I'm far too busy to just be nosy — but if I need to know information because somebody's receiving a death threat through the computer, to get a warrant for that or a production order for that, it takes a long time," he said.

Milmine, and many police services, support a Conservative bill that would make Internet service providers disclose a user's name and information to police without a warrant.

Some companies already do, Milmine says.

"Facebook is our best friend when it comes to investigations," he said. "If there's something serious, or imminent danger to a youth, Facebook will give us all the information within a day. They'll give us everything. There's no warrants, no production orders — they're terrific."

To read about the anti-bullying lesson Milmine gives young people on his days off, go to metronews.ca. JESSICA SMITH/METRO IN TORONTO

Students speak out

Look beyond laws to end bullying: Teens

A group of students brought a message for Canadian politicians studying cyberbullying: Laws won't stop it.

Alberta teacher and anti-bullying activist Bill Belsey helped some of his students from Springbank Middle School speak to senators on a committee studying cyberbullying last spring. Most said kids their age need something more concrete.

"I just do not think that teenagers would listen. It just does not seem real enough," student Mariel Calvo said. "What I think we should do is get people speaking about it, get people aware, and make sure that everybody knows how it harms people, how it consumes your life completely."

Student Molly Turner



Bill Belsey CONTRIBUTED

said a law probably wouldn't have an effect right away, but could help make bullying less socially acceptable.

"For example, it is now illegal not to wear a seat belt, but, not so long ago, that was acceptable," she said. "If the government were to set up a very definite consequence for anyone breaking the law on cyberbullying, it may make it unacceptable in society. It would not solve everything and not right away, but it, along with other measures, might help."

JESSICA SMITH/METRO IN TORONTO





A 'noogie' never hurt me: Vice mag founder

Long before teens posted nasty comments on their friends' Facebook pages and adults took surreptitious photos of Walmart shoppers to post and mock on peopleofwalmart.com, there was Vice magazine. It pioneered the art of matching photos of regular people with cutting comments.

Gavin McInnes, a founder of Vice who cut ties with the magazine in 2008, created the infamous Dos and Don'ts in early '90s Montreal. A bully by today's standards, he argues that bullying — especially the old-fashioned noogie and purple nurple — is good for children.

Dos and Don'ts were photos taken of people out in public — knowingly or unknowingly — paired with humorous insults or lecherous and offensive compliments. It began when Vice was based in Montreal and continued as a staple of the magazine when its founders moved it to Brooklyn and found worldwide success.

"But now, with Instagram and all that, the whole thing has become moot. Everyone is a Dos and Don'ter," McInnes said.

He says bullying has changed over time.

"When I was a kid, bullies weren't necessarily a bad thing," he said. "You got a wedgie. No one wore glasses when I was in school because you'd be a 'four-eyes.' Now, all kids have glasses."

McInnes says legal attempts to stop cyberbullying won't help children. High-profile cases of kids who kill themselves after they've been bullied are not enough to prove a crisis, he said.

"To cling to that I'm sure sells papers and makes people feel special and makes people feel that they're righteous, but the mathematical truth of it is it's not a major problem and the worst thing you could do would be to try to fix this fake problem by regulating people. Sorry, someone called you fat. Sorry, you were bullied online. That's called high school."

McInnes fondly recalls his childhood, when he says bullies were respected as tough guys that you'd want to be, and kids were tough enough to ride their bikes barefoot until their soles were like leather.

"Every kid had a cast on,

Point and laugh

- Gavin McInnes recalls the first negative reaction he got from a Dos and Don'ts entry. It came from a woman whose shirt he said made her look like she had "penis tits." She was mad and expected him to care, he said. "I guess people actually aren't used to being antagonized, but that's the secret to being funny."

we wouldn't wear a helmet, we didn't have car seats, and then you go into the real world and you can fight and survive," he said. "Now we have fat kids, sitting inside where it's safe, playing video games, being regulated to extinction."

"You do a lot more disservice to a child when you make him scared of the world and when you put him in a protective bubble where it's illegal for anyone to be mean to him. Mean is good, because the world is cruel."

JESSICA SMITH/METRO IN TORONTO

Anti-bullying: A cause célèbre

Anti-bullying has become a rallying point for celebrities who have been bullied themselves.

- Lady Gaga, who set up the Born This Way Foundation to fight bullying, said in the documentary Inside the Out-side:

"The boys picked me up and threw me in the trash can on the street on the corner of my block, while all the other girls from the school were leaving and could see me in the trash and everybody was laughing — and I was even laughing ... And I remember even one of the girls looking at me like, 'Are you about to cry? You're pathetic.'"

- Possibly the most bullied teen in America, Rebecca Black, singer of the YouTube hit Friday, went on to become an anti-bullying spokesperson. She said in a press release for the PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center:

"Bullying is something that affects so many and it can happen to anyone. I know what it's like to have people make fun of you, and I know how much it can hurt. I just don't want other kids to have to go through that."

- Demi Lovato, an anti-bullying spokesperson with the Mean Stinks Campaign, told ABC News:

"I literally didn't know why they were being so mean to me. And when I would ask them why, they would just say, 'Well, you're fat.' I was bullied because I was fat. And then a few months later I developed an eating disorder, and that's kind of what I've been dealing with ever since."

JESSICA SMITH/METRO



Guatemala quake kills dozens

Central America.

Tembler is the strongest to hit the country since a 1976 quake that killed 23,000

A 7.4-magnitude earthquake rocked Guatemala on Wednesday, killing at least 48 people in two provinces as it toppled thick adobe walls, shook huge landslides down onto highways, and sent terrified villagers streaming into the streets of San Marcos, an idyllic mountain town near the border with Mexico. One hundred people were missing, and hundreds more were injured.

The quake, which hit in the midst of the work day, caused terror over an unusually wide area, with damage reported in all but one of Guatemala's 22 states and shaking felt as far away as Mexico City.

San Marcos, where more than 30 homes collapsed, bore the brunt of the temblor's fury. More than 300 people, including firefighters, policemen and villagers, worked at a sand-extraction site to rescue seven people reported buried alive, including a six-year-old

boy who had accompanied his grandfather to work.

"I want to see Giovanni! I want to see Giovanni!" the boy's mother, Francisca Ramirez, frantically cried. "He's not dead. Get him out."

President Otto Perez Molina said more than 2,000 soldiers were deployed from a base in San Marcos to help with disaster relief. A plane had already made two trips with special disaster-relief teams to the San Marcos area.

He asked that civilians in the country of 14 million stay put and not travel on highways because of landslides and debris. He also encouraged people in affected areas to stay outside and away from tall buildings.

David de Leon, spokesperson for civil protection, told radio station Emisoras Unidas that officials were working on evacuations and disaster relief. There were four strong aftershocks by late afternoon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Online

Go to metronews.ca for the latest updates



Residents walk around rubble and a damaged car after a 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck the mountain village of San Marcos, Guatemala, Wednesday.

MOISES CASTILLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Market Minute

DOLLAR
100.39¢ (-0.44¢)

TSX
12,230.59 (-130.61)

OIL
\$84.44 US (-\$4.27)

GOLD
\$1,714 US (-\$1)

Natural gas: \$3.57 US (-5¢)
Dow Jones: 12,932.73 (-312.95)

Switching to Skype

Microsoft nixes Windows Live Messenger

Microsoft is dropping its instant-messaging program and forcing most users to switch to Skype. Maintaining Windows Live Messenger made less sense after Microsoft Corp. bought Skype for \$8.5 billion US last year. A new version of Skype released a few weeks ago allows users to sign in with a Microsoft account.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Confidential settlement

Deal reached in Canada Goose trademark case

A clothing retailer has settled a trademark infringement lawsuit with Canada Goose over its distinctive parkas. Canada Goose sued International Clothiers Inc. earlier this year, accusing it of making shoddy replicas.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A solid stock-picking strategy

Investing. This is the second of our three-part series on getting into the stock market



IN THE MARKET
Bryan Borzykowski
For Metro

It won't come as a surprise to know that it's pretty difficult to predict where the stock market is headed. If we knew what would happen, we all would have sold our tech stocks in 2000; we would have exited the market in mid-2008; and we would have all jumped back in March 2009.

While bad economic news out of Europe does negatively impact markets, and while investors are worried about America's fiscal issues, it's foolish for the average person to make bets based on what may or may not happen in the world. The only way to really "play" the market is by investing in reliable, revenue-generating companies for the long-term.

What makes a company reliable? Typically, the best companies to own are in sectors that are impervious to an economic downturn. Food companies, for instance, do well in downturns because people always need to eat. Telecoms outperform too — no one wants to give up their Internet.

Dividend paying companies have also been proven to be less volatile than non-yielding companies. The dividend — a payout by the company to shareholders — is often a focusing force for executives. They need to be prudent with their company's money; if they're



If you stick to solid businesses that perform well in any economic environment, says columnist Bryan Borzykowski, your portfolio will eventually rise. ISTOCK

not, and the dividend gets cut, investors will want to sell.

Large, multinational brand name companies do well over the long-term too. Their size make it less likely that they'll go bankrupt; their international footprint means they have multiple avenues for growth and their brand name will keep people coming back for more. Think McDonald's, Coke and Procter & Gamble.

Whether you pick stocks or invest in mutual funds, these types of "blue chip" stocks should form the basis of most people's portfolios. Some investors, though, may want to boost returns by buying what's called "growth" stocks. These are often small companies — with a market capitalization of under \$1 billion — they're in cyclical sectors that outperform during boom times and they're

Next in the series

- **In Metro Friday:** Should you go it alone or go to an adviser? Plus, some online tools for the DIY types.
- **Online:** Missed Wednesday's column? Want to read Friday's now? Check out the whole package online at metronews.ca/tag/investing.

day's column? Want to read Friday's now? Check out the whole package online at metronews.ca/tag/investing.



companies with incredible growth. They are more volatile than blue chips, but, as the famous investing adage goes, risk equals reward.

It's actually a good idea to hold both. Large-cap stocks tend to appreciate slowly, though the dividend will help boost returns, while the share prices of small-caps can increase quickly. A combination should give you some growth without putting your entire portfolio at risk.

Whatever you choose to buy, make sure you're purchas-

ing a company that isn't going to implode in the short-term.

So do your due diligence. Read what's on Morningstar.com — a popular investing website that analyzes stocks, mutual funds and exchange-traded funds — seek out analyst reports and comb through financial reports. If you don't have the time, talk to an adviser or buy a mutual fund, where the managers pick the stocks for you.

Ask any expert and they'll tell you not to try and time the

Terminology

Know your numbers

If you're checking out a potential buy online, here are three numbers to look out for.

P/E: A company's price-to-earnings ratio tells people how much an investor is willing to pay per dollar of earnings. Very generally, a P/E ratio lower than the market P/E means a stock is cheap; if the metric is above, the company may be expensive.

Dividend Yield: This number tells you how much money the company is giving back to shareholders. It often has two numbers next to it — the first is the dividend per share, the second is the annual yield.

Price: The share price is, of course, important, but it shouldn't drive your investment decision. Apple costs \$576, but it's trading at a cheap 13 times P/E. Look at the share price, then look at metrics such as P/E to determine if the company is worth buying.

market. If you stick to solid businesses that will perform well in any economic environment, then your portfolio will eventually rise.

Bryan Borzykowski is a Toronto-based financial writer and the author of *Building Wealth All-in-One for Canadians for Dummies*. Contact him at bryanborzykowski.com or follow him on Twitter @bborzyko.

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MEMO: ETIQUETTE AMENDMENTS



HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

The following changes are being implemented immediately. Please make a note of it.

- Effective without delay, you must wait for all departing passengers to get off transportation before you are allowed on it. For example, if there is a woman in her 80s attempting to leave a bus, you may no longer crowd on board as if it is the last ship leaving Krypton. Under the new guidelines, doing so makes you a jackass. If there is more than one person attempting to push on at the same time, this DOES NOT divide the jackassery between you. You each remain at Full Jackass. Thank you for your understanding.
- On Internet forums, you may no longer comment on crime or privacy issues with, "What have they got to hide?" or a similar variant when you write under a pseudonym such as SEXYGUY76. We apologize for any inconvenience.
- If you are walking down the sidewalk and refuse to give up an inch of shoulder territory to oncoming pedestrians, you will no longer be considered King of the Sidewalk, no matter how confident your strut. We take no responsibility for loss of ego that may result.
- Hitler may not be mentioned underneath any online political article unless Hitler is the subject of the article. Even then, give it a rest.
- Sitting on the outside of two empty bus seats and then not moving at all when somebody tries to sit on the inside seat, makes you worse than, uh ... Mussolini.
- Effective immediately, all strippers and bartenders are not into you, and are instead faking it because it's their job. Unless you're really, really sure, in which case you're the exception, loverboy.
- In person, you may no longer say any of the following: "We dialogued," "Besties," "Random!" and "Cold enough for ya?" Going forward, you may not use "Going forward."
- If attending televised golf, you may not shout, "Get in the hole!" after every putt, or I will find you and hurt you.
- You may not shove fatty, over-salted food into your gob and then go all Dr. Strangelove when you are offered a flu shot.
- No whistling of any sort. Ever.
- Yelling out the title of each song at a rock concert after a few notes is no longer amazing. It is now very annoying and will make you hated by everyone, including your future grandchildren.
- Please be informed that taking out your smartphone at live theatre makes you a horrible person, retroactive to when smartphones were invented. If you have any concerns, our representatives will be happy to show you many creative ways to conceal your phone.

This concludes the list of changes.

You may have noticed most of the new rules only apply to jerks and fools. If you are neither jerk nor fool, please carry on as before. The only rule for nice, smart people is to chill out about kale. It's just cabbage, for God's sake.

Thank you for your time and consideration in these matters.



If attending televised golf, you may not shout, "Get in the hole!" after every putt, or I will find you and hurt you. Sincerely, John Mazerolle. GETTY IMAGES

They have topped Mount Symmetry



PHOTOPRESS/SWNS.COM

Mountain photo op

Climbers hang in sync on peak

A team of climbers created this display by symmetrically scaling this needle-like mountain. The crew of 28, from across Europe, travelled to Italy to take on the daunting Ago del Torrione, known as Cleopatra's Needle.

But instead of waiting until they all reached the vertiginous peak, they paused while in perfect symmetry. **METRO**

Photographer's view



"It took me about half a year to organize and prepare for this photograph. Everything from safety, taking the photo from a helicopter to weather conditions came into play."

Robert Boesch
Swiss mountaineering photographer

Inspirational summit

Aim was 'something very strange'

For mountaineer and photo organizer Robert Boesch, inspiration came from simply "trying to do something new, something very strange."

"For some time now, I have concentrated on taking photos of climbers in unusual positions on rock faces," he said.

"It makes the photo truly striking and memorable — that's what I wanted."

METRO



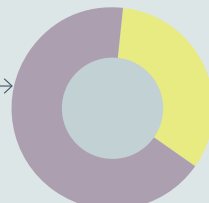
Boesch and the climbers spent roughly six months getting ready for this stunning spectacle. THOMAS SENE/PHOTOPRESS/SWNS



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Should New York City have cancelled its marathon?

67%
NO. IT
WOULD
HAVE
SHOWN
THE
CITY'S
RESILIENCE



33%
YES. IT
WOULD
HAVE
BEEN
DISRESPECTFUL
TO HOLD IT

Twitter

@fredforhm:

Ela has closed downtown and it will signal more to follow. Council needs to do more for the downtown now or we will suffer forever. #Halifax

@danmacleod:

Sad to see Ela close in downtown #Halifax. City Council needs to help change the heart of Halifax from a drunk pit to community culture.

@mgpwilliams:

I wonder how many people going on about Obama's re-election actually voted in #Halifax elections not to long ago

@mestlin:

I lost 2 hrs of sleep last night because of Mitt Romney's optimism. But I'll gain 4 hrs today, flying from Halifax to Vancouver. So, up 2.

@dann_leblanc:

I feel like cats are to Halifax as sewer rats are to NYC #abundant #no-complaints



Bill Woods performs his show at Sunday Night Comedy. JEFF HARPER

Funnyman Bill Woods finds the smiles in the split

Sunday Night Comedy. Comedian discovers laughter is the best medicine for getting over a divorce



BACKSTAGE PASS
Jenna Conter
halifax@metronews.ca

There is a variety of ways to deal with divorce: drinking, crying, buying several cats and potted plants, but

for PicnicFace alumni Bill Wood, a Sunday Night Comedy at Company House did the trick.

"A week after my first show, my wife left me and the next Sunday I had to go do another show so I just sucked it up and just did it," Wood tells me.

"It seemed every Sunday after that we just fought to the point where it was debilitating and I kept going to do shows."

Once an escape from his personal life, Wood's show is now intimately linked to his divorce.

With every passing week,

audience members return, ready to hear "the continuing saga of Bill's emotional plight."

"The show takes an air of real human sharing and it infects the other comedians and the material they use," Wood says.

Each week, Wood plays host to a collection of both local and visiting comedians.

The show encourages and highlights everyone from well-seasoned comic veterans to terrified first-timers.

"I interview everyone before they do their set so the

Quoted

"I think a lot of people become comedians because they taught themselves to be funny as a coping mechanism in youth to get attention..."

Comedian Bill Wood

audience can understand them as a person and then watch them do their art," he explains. "So I like Sunday Night Comedy because

of over-share."

Linking stand-up comedy to therapy is by no means a groundbreaking discovery.

To that end, Wood relies on his stage to be a platform by which to extricate his own demons but also to dust himself off and heal.

"The only way to succeed at anything is to get your s— under control," he said.

"I think a lot of people become comedians because they taught themselves to be funny as a coping mechanism in youth to get attention. But that doesn't mean it has to run your life forever more."

2 SCENE

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Is scene in new Lincoln biopic a subtle nod to the man's sexuality?

Lincoln. Set in 1865, the great U.S. president shares an ambiguous moment with an aide as he stresses over his duties

NED
EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Late in Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln*, when Honest Abe (as played by Daniel Day-Lewis) is wrestling with the decision to press ahead on getting the 13th Amendment passed, he pays a late-night visit to the sleeping quarters of John Hay, a young aide (played by Joseph Cross).

There's much affectionate thigh-patting and hair-tousling. In the scene, Hay asked if Lincoln would like any "company" that night. Which got us to wondering: Was that scene meant to be seen as a subtle nod to the

wide-ranging theories about Lincoln's personal life?

"You mean was he gay?" screenwriter Tony Kushner offers back with a grin. "I think there's a great deal of reason in the historical record to wonder. There's absolutely nothing definitive," he says.

"Given the number of people in Lincoln's very empyrean realm who were probably or definitely bisexual at least — Michelangelo, Shakespeare, et cetera — I'd say there might be some theory that one could generate that people who really are dealing in that realm aren't as limited by categories as the rest of us. And I think there is some evidence. I mean, Carl Sandburg said it in 1930. There are spots of lavender in Lincoln's early life, is the way he put it."

Sally Field, for her part, is rather particular of Mr. Lincoln, probably because she spent so long playing his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln. "I



Daniel Day-Lewis plays Abraham Lincoln in Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln* AP PHOTO/DREAMWORKS, 20TH CENTURY FOX, DAVID JAMES

say no he wasn't," she says with a laugh. On a more serious note, she explains that back then, "men were so much more open with their affection for each other. Their letters to each other were, you know, 'My darling, I miss you.' They were extraordinary. 'I long to be in your presence.' And in

today's homophobic world, you immediately go to that's where they are. Whether that's where they were or whether they dabbled, who knew?"

As far as Kushner — who won a Pulitzer Prize for the AIDS drama *Angels in America* — is concerned, this film isn't trying to say one way or

the other. "I think that it's a mistake for historians to err on either side," Kushner explains. "I don't think we should jump into certainty where there is no certainty, but I also think historians should not say, as some have, he absolutely wasn't gay or bisexual. We don't know, and we will never

know unless somebody discovers something lying around. So the question is for me, as Sally just said so eloquently at the Human Rights Campaign dinner, so what? Who cares who he wanted to sleep with? He was Abraham Lincoln, a great president."

One thing is for sure though, and that's that during the heated political action of the movie, Lincoln certainly wasn't getting frisky with anyone, male or female. "In 1865, I feel comfortable in saying in January he wasn't getting laid by anybody," Kushner says. "He was very busy the whole time."

Sure, but what about the scene in question? Even if the movie doesn't want to say definitively one way or the other if Lincoln was gay, was that late-night confab meant to be a nod to the theories about the sexuality of the 16th president? Yes, Kushner later confides to Metro. "You're exactly right."

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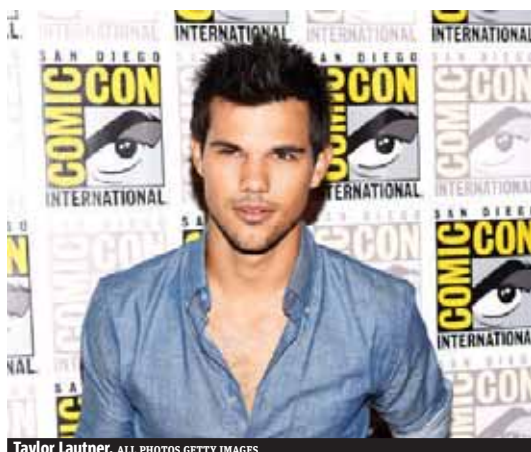
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Taylor Lautner. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Lautner weighs in on the troubles of his co-stars

Since he's starred in all five Twilight films with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson, it was only a matter of time before Taylor Lautner was asked to weigh in on Stewart's cheating scandal that broke this summer.

An interviewer for Cosmopolitan magazine got him to open up, though Lautner chose a very

diplomatic route for his response.

"To be honest, I've never been involved in any of those situations, so I don't know if trust can be regained," he said.

"It would be just a guess and a shot in the dark, and I don't want to give that if I haven't even been there myself."



Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart.

Stewart playing coy on relationship

Looking for official confirmation that Twilight stars Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson have really reconciled in the wake of her cheating scandal?

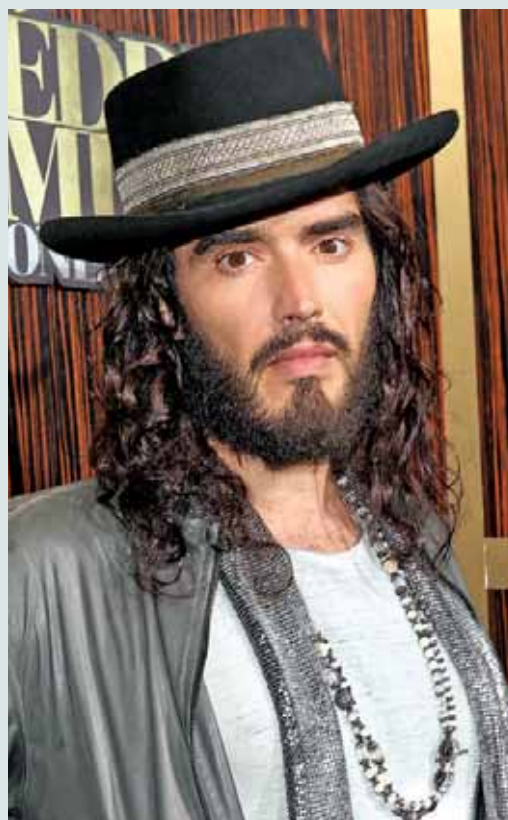
Well, the woman herself isn't being much help in that department. When

asked during an interview on the Today show if she and Pattinson are back together, she says, "Funny you mention that. I'm going to just let people watch whatever little movie they think our lives are. Keep 'em guessing, I always say."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Interviewing Russell Brand, one tweet at a time

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

I've arrived at a publicist's office in Hollywood to chat with British comedian Russell Brand purportedly about his participation in What

About Dick? (whataboutdick.com), a radio play-style stage show written by Monty Python alum Eric Idle.

But Brand has never been known to stick to the topic at hand. He enters with a banana, singing, "And I get so doggone lonesome."

He sits down, peels open the banana and says, "Come on in, mate. What do you need to know?"

Follow our conversation over the next few days at twitter.com/russellsmusings.



Megan Fox and Brian Austin Green.

Brian Austin Green credits Witherspoon for his cover up

Brian Austin Green and Megan Fox managed to keep the birth of their son a secret for more than a month.

And he says all the credit goes to Reese Witherspoon, as the world was too busy cooing over her newborn to notice, he tells

Ryan Seacrest during an interview.

"We got really lucky," he says. "And I've been wanting to send Reese Witherspoon flowers for, like, a month and a half. She actually gave birth, I think, the day before us in Santa Monica."

Twitter



@kirstiealley

thank you for purchasing my book..it was a labor of labor and love...sweet dreams...see you tomorrow



@JKCorden

I just did a fake laugh to someone when they told me a political joke i didnt really get. Happens almost everyday.



@MariahCarey

Someone just told me it is Hello Kitty's birthday today!! haaaaa



@ConanOBrien

I'd never use this Twitter account to openly pander in hope of getting free stuff. Just wanted you to know, people at Garrett's Popcorn.

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Cocktail trouser hour

The look. Cocktails needn't be the only thing in need of a shake and stir. See this season's glitzy trouser, which replaces the little black dress.

RICHARD PECKETT
life@metronews.ca

Trousers to a cocktail party? Here are a few reasons to give them a try: 1) Pants are more liberating and easier to dance in than a tiny little dress. 2) They're chic in a slightly unaffected, androgynous kind of way and 3) This season's flashy, embellished versions are bang on trend thanks to Stella McCartney, Jonathan Saunders, Miu Miu and a long list of others who worked the look into their autumn/winter collections. Go for a pair that is sufficiently showy. Think shiny metallics, textured brocade or trippy graphics. Wear them to the office with a button-down and blazer before changing into a festive top and skinny heels for night.

Fashion dictionary

- **Brocade.** A rich, intricate, jacquard-weaved fabric with a raised design, often in a gold or silver thread.
- **Jacquard.** A decorative weave created on a jacquard loom for damask and brocade fabrics.
- **Damask.** A figured fabric with a pattern that is self-coloured and visible on both sides.

Topshop

diamond jacquard trousers, \$120, topshop.com



Jonathan Saunders' girls get their cocktail legs. CONTRIBUTED



Poppy Delevingne on parade in brocade. MICHELLE BOBB-PARRIS

ASOS

premium floral trousers, \$79, asos.com



Miu Miu

cropped brocade pants, \$1,050, net-a-porter.com



H&M

burgundy pants, \$50, hm.com



Zara

capri pants with argyle jacquard, \$80, zara.com



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Exploring the faux look of nature



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

One of the hottest trends in decorating has natural elements incorporated in a room, like wood, stone and fur. A country or modern look can take on an authentic and relaxed feel with a few of these elements.

Natural elements help keep a room's colour scheme neutral, yet add texture and interest.

Here's a grouping of on-trend, natural-looking decor products with a twist.

You see, all of these hot decor times are faux. There's no fur, wood, stone or wool here, so go ahead and get the look — the only thing real is the affordable price.



Leather

Add a warm, casual look to a fancy chandelier with the look of saddle leather. Faux Leather Chandelier Shades, \$22, crateandbarrel.com.

Wool

Get that lodge look with the romance of the Hudson Bay point blanket — in cozy flannel. Flannel Multi-Stripe Sheet Set, \$225/queen set. thebay.com.



Animal skin

Cover your floors with whimsy and style with a trendy animal skin rug. Exotica Tiger 3x5 all-wool rug, \$112, ecarpetgallery.com.

Wood

Water resistant and easy-to-install wood-look vinyl floors give the warmth and character of a New York brownstone at a fraction of the price. Allure Chateau Vinyl Parquet, \$3/square foot homedepot.ca.



Birch

Sip a drink from what looks like a birch tree branch. Canadian Birch Straws, \$14/box, anthropologie.com.



Fur

Add a touch of luxury to the corner of a sofa or the end of a bed. Spotted Lemur Faux Fur Throw, \$99, urbanbarn.com.



Stone

Simple stone shapes offer a contemporary feel to the bathroom. Stone Resin Bath Accessories, \$5-10, cb2.com.



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interac.ca/flash



Kick up your next dinner party with spicy bites and cooling dips

Spiced Shrimp with Lime-Ginger Sauce



This recipe makes 30 pieces. FROM CANADA'S FAVOURITE RECIPE

"Everyone loves traditional cold cooked shrimp around a spicy seafood sauce," write Elizabeth Baird and Rose Murray in Canada's Favourite Recipes. "This version is just the reverse . . . spicy shrimp, served hot with a cooling dip on the side."

1. Sauce: In a small bowl, combine the mayonnaise, fresh ginger, lime zest and lime juice. (Make-ahead: Cover and refrigerate for up to 6 hours.)

2. Shrimp: In a small bowl, combine 1 tsp (5 ml) of the oil, the lime juice, coriander, paprika, cumin, brown sugar, salt, oregano and cayenne. In a large bowl, evenly coat the shrimp with the mixture. Cover and marinate at room temperature for 20 minutes. (Make-ahead: Cover and refrigerate for up to 3 hours.)

3. In a large skillet, heat the remaining 2 tsp (10 ml) of canola oil over medium-high heat. Stir-fry the marinated shrimp until bright pink (no longer opaque) and just

cooked through, 1 to 2 minutes. Serve hot. Arrange on a platter with the sauce for dipping; garnish with lime wedges.

THE RECIPES ON THIS PAGE ARE PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM CANADA'S FAVOURITE RECIPES BY ELIZABETH BAIRD AND ROSE MURRAY

Ingredients

Sauce

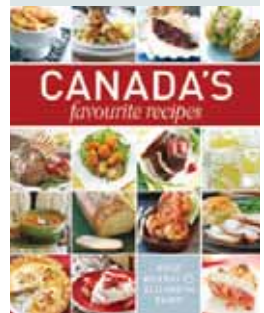
- 2/3 cup (150 ml) mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) grated fresh ginger
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) grated lime zest
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) fresh lime juice

Shrimp

- 1 tbsp (15 ml) canola oil, divided
- 2 tsp (10 ml) fresh lime juice
- 1 tsp (5 ml) each ground coriander, paprika, ground cumin and brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) each sea salt and dried oregano
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) cayenne
- 1 lb (500 g) large shrimp, peeled, with tail portion left intact
- lime wedges

Cookbook of the Week

Canadian fare from coast to coast



In the book Canada's Favourite Recipes, Rose Murray and Elizabeth Baird set out to answer the question: What is Canadian cuisine?

The book reveals just how distinctive our food is and how our people, climate and land influence it. Many of the 160 recipes have been contributed by Canadian cooks, chefs and personalities such as Julian Armstrong, Emily Richards and Wayson Choy.

Among the Canadian delicacies included are: Peameal Bacon Roast, Cod and Potato Fritters with Spicy Lemon Mayo, Maple Carrot Cake with Maple Butter Icing and more. **METRO**

A saucy pudding surprise

"My grandmother, Elizabeth Maud Davis, was still young when my grandfather left her a widow," writes Elizabeth Baird in Canada's Favourite Recipes. "In those days before pensions, she needed to work, and so she became a housekeeper. ... In each of the households, she added to her repertoire of recipes and passed them to my sister Janey and me. The biggest hit, a lemon pudding with a light spongy cake on top and a saucy bottom, remains a favourite to this day."

1. In a bowl, whisk together 3/4 cup (175 ml) of the sugar, the

flour and the salt. Add the milk, butter and egg yolks; whisk to combine. Whisk in the lemon zest and juice; set aside.

2. In a separate bowl, beat the egg whites until soft peaks form; beat in the remaining sugar, 1 tbsp (15 ml) at a time, beating until stiff shiny peaks form. Stir about one-quarter of the egg-white mixture into the lemon batter. Fold in the remaining egg-white mixture.

3. Scrape into an 8-inch (2 -l) glass baking dish or metal cake pan. Place the dish in a larger shallow pan. Pour enough boil-

ing water into the outer pan to come halfway up the sides of the dish holding the batter. Bake in the centre of a 350 F (180 C) oven until top is lightly browned and the pudding has pulled away from the sides of the dish, about 30 minutes.

4. Remove the dish with the baked pudding from the outer pan and let cool on a rack to the desired temperature (still a little warm or at room temperature). To make-ahead: Cover the pudding and refrigerate for up to 1 day.) Spoon into dessert bowls; top with a scattering of blueberries and a dusting of

Ingredients

- 1 cup (250 ml) granulated sugar, divided
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) flour
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt
- 1 cup (250 ml) milk
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) butter, melted
- 3 large eggs, separated
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) grated lemon zest
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) lemon juice
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) fresh blueberries or raspberries
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) icing sugar

icing sugar.



This recipes serves six to eight. FROM CANADA'S FAVOURITE RECIPES



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Sunday, 10:00am-5:00pm

DALPLEX 

AUS football

Eight Huskies make all-star team

The Saint Mary's Huskies placed eight players on the Atlantic University Sport football all-star team on Monday.

Linemen Guillaume Gagnier and Matt Albright and running back Melvin Abankwah got the nod on offence.

Defensively, end Rob Jubenville, linebacker Jonathan Langa, safety Neil King and cornerback Kayin Marchand-Wright got the nod. Brett Lauther was named the all-star place kicker. **METRO**



Matt Albright SAINT MARY'S

CIS soccer

Halifax's Santilli an all-Canadian

Halifax's Rieka Santilli of the Dalhousie Tigers was named a first-team women's soccer all-Canadian on Wednesday in Victoria, B.C.

The fifth-year midfielder had company as an all-Canadian, with her teammate, striker Emma Landry, making the second team along with Saint Mary's Huskies midfielder Michelle Yates.

Bayside's Derek Gaudet of Saint Mary's was a men's first-team all-Canadian, while Huskies keeper Adam Miller and Dalhousie Tigers defender Kerry Weymann made the second team.

METRO



Dalhousie Tigers forward Shea Kewin, right, tries to get the puck past Saint Mary's Huskies forward Cory Tanaka and goalie Anthony Peters during Atlantic University Sport men's hockey action at the Forum on Wednesday. **JEFF HARPER/METRO**

Huskies win again for share of top AUS spot

AUS hockey. Seven-goal outburst through first 34 minutes too much for Dalhousie Tigers



MATTHEW WUEST

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Somebody forgot to tell the Saint Mary's Huskies they weren't expected to be at the top of the Atlantic University Sport men's hockey standings this season.

The Huskies, whose top returning scorer had a meagre

eight goals last season, reeled off their fourth straight win on Wednesday at the Forum, pounding the Dalhousie Tigers 7-4 to improve to 6-3 and pull into a tie for first with the Acadia Axemen.

"Hopefully we can continue to keep things going," said Huskies forward Lucas Bloodoff, who led the offensive onslaught with a goal and two assists and now has a league-leading 15 points.

"It's no secret — we've just been having everybody playing hard and keeping it simple. If we keep doing that, there's no reason we can't have more success."

The Huskies, who checked

in at the No. 8 spot in this week's Canadian Interuniversity Sport ranking following Saturday's big 4-3 road win over the much-ballyhooed UNB Varsity Reds, ran away with it early on Wednesday, taking a 5-1 lead after the first period and extending that to 7-1 by the 13:09 mark of the second.

Stephen Johnston also had a three-point night on a goal and two assists while two former Mooseheads found the net, with winger Shawn O'Donnell potting two goals and Ryan Hillier picking up a single.

But the Huskies weren't thrilled with letting the Tigers bury three goals in the third period.

"A win always feels really good — we were happy with our first two periods," Bloodoff said. "But we're always striving to get better, so (two periods) isn't good enough."

The Huskies have a long way to go. They're not even a third of the way through their schedule with seven games left to play before the holiday break.

But they're hoping to stay in the mix at the top.

"We're not putting anything past us," Bloodoff said. "We're taking it a game at a time but that bye (a top-two finish) is for sure one of our goals. Hopefully when (the season ends), we're right around that area."

Cole Harbour's Grant gets next fight



T.J. Grant, left, fights Evan Dunham during UFC 152 in September in Toronto. **THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE**

Cole Harbour's T.J. Grant has landed his next UFC fight.

Grant, who signed a new four-fight contract with the mixed-martial arts circuit in October, found out Wednesday he will face Matt Wiman on Jan. 26 at United Centre in Chicago as part of UFC on Fox 6.

The 28-year-old Grant is 6-3 at the UFC level and has won three straight lightweight bouts, most recently earning a \$65,000 fight-of-the-night win over Evan Dunham in UFC 152 in Toronto on Sept. 22.

"It's not too close to my last fight and not too

Quoted

"He's had tons of fights in UFC. He's fought some really, really high-level talent and he's a top guy and I have my work cut out for me."

T.J. Grant on Matt Wiman

far away — it's the perfect amount of time," Grant told Metro. "I have tons of time left to prepare, I'm already in decent shape and I'm just looking to build off my last win."

Wiman has a 9-4 record at the UFC level and has won back-to-back fights.

In Wiman's most recent bout on Sept. 29 in Nottingham, England, he knocked off then-undefeated Paul Sass in UFC on Fuel 5.

Grant called Wiman a "first-class warrior."

"I'm really excited to be fighting him," Grant said. "I know we're both going to go out, leave it all out there and put on a good show."

The main card features UFC flyweight champion Demetrious Johnson putting his title on the line against John Dodson.

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO



Team QMJHL teammates, from left, James Melindy, Jonathan Drouin, Jonathan Huberdeau and Jonathan Racine welcome Nathan MacKinnon to the celebration after a second-period goal. CANADIAN HOCKEY LEAGUE

Mooseheads stars lead QMJHL to win

Subway Super Series.

League ends five-game losing streak in CHL under-20 all-star series



MATTHEW WUEST
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The Halifax Mooseheads' brightest three stars played a big role in helping the QMJHL end its slump in the Subway Super Series.

Forwards Nathan MacKinnon and Jonathan Drouin paced the offensive attack and Zach Fucale turned in a solid showing in goal as the QMJHL topped Russia 5-2 in Val-d'Or, Que., to end the league's five-game losing streak in the Canadian Hockey League under-20 all-star series.

MacKinnon, the centre between Drouin on the left and Saint John Sea Dogs star Jonathan Huberdeau on the right, finished with a goal and three assists, while Drouin chipped in with a goal and an assist. Fucale played the opening 30 minutes 58 seconds and stopped nine of 10 shots he faced.

Brent Andrews, the Mooseheads' fourth representative on the QMJHL

CHL rankings

Mooseheads climb to No. 1 spot

The Halifax Mooseheads have finally ascended to No. 1 in the Canadian Hockey League's weekly top-10 ranking.

The Mooseheads, who started the season ranked sixth and have spent the past two weeks at No. 2, moved past the Western Hockey League's Kamloops Blazers (17-2-0-1) on Wednesday.

The move to the top comes after the Mooseheads (16-1-0-1) saw a 14-game winning streak come to a halt in a 6-5

shootout road loss to the Rimouski Oceanic on Sunday.

"It's a nice honour for the players, coaching staff and the organization. (It's) something everybody can be proud of and excited about — for a day," said Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell. "Then it's time to move on. The next challenge is to make sure you stay at the top. It's hard enough to get there, but staying there is twice as hard."

The Quebec Remparts (13-4-0-0) are third while the Blainville-Boisbriand Armada (13-5-0-2) are fifth and the Rouyn-Noranda Huskies (13-5-0-1) are eighth. **MATTHEW WUEST/METRO**

Have expectations for CBA become too high?

The hardest part, for Gary Bettman and Donald Fehr, might not be negotiating with each other.

Indeed, the commissioner of the NHL and the executive director of the NHL Players' Association may well find negotiating with their own people — who have their own expectations of what a season-saving deal ought to look like — to be the biggest hurdle.

"There has to be some compromise, otherwise there would have been a settlement a long time ago," said George Smith, a former management-side labour negotiator who is now a lecturer at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont.

"There are at least three groups and the players' group. There have been promises made to each of their members to get us to the point where we are today."

For the second day in a row, the NHL and NHLPA

Pressure escalating

Tension seems to be rising from all corners of the NHL.

- Pockets of owners and players are believed to be exerting pressure on leadership to get a new deal, while Molson Coors CEO Peter Swinburn, whose company is a major league sponsor, told The Canadian Press in an interview that the brewer will seek compensation when the lockout ends.

- "There will be some redress for us as a result of this," said Swinburn. "I can't quantify that and I don't know because I don't know the scale of how long the lockout is going to last."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

eye on saving the season. Wednesday's session started later than expected in the afternoon as both sides used the morning to strategize internally.

With a snowstorm hitting New York, some of the players who had been in on Tuesday's meetings — including Sidney Crosby — went home early.

Tuesday's seven-hour session dealt largely with contract issues and revenue sharing, and was said to be the first true bargaining of these collective bargaining talks.

Wednesday's session was scheduled to deal with the most contentious issue: Paying players their salaries in full while at the same time getting the two sides to share hockey-related revenue 50-50.

More talks are planned for Thursday but there is a feeling among some on the league side that the pace is too slow.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Raps lose to familiar face

Vince Carter of the Dallas Mavericks dribbles the ball against Jose Calderon of the Toronto Raptors Wednesday in Dallas. Dallas beat Toronto 109-104 as the Raps fell to 1-4 for the season. RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

NFL

Andrew Luck latest to go bald

Andrew Luck has joined the shaved squad, too.

Nearly three dozen players on the Indianapolis Colts have shaved their heads in a show of support for head coach Chuck Pagano, who is undergoing treatment for a form of leukemia.

Luck became a new member of the no-hair club Wednesday morning. Players and coaches were not available for comment because they were headed to Jacksonville, but a team spokesman confirmed that Luck will indeed look quite different when he takes off his helmet Thursday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Colts rookie quarterback Andrew Luck
GETTY IMAGES FILE

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MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

Demand to be taken seriously. Demand that others treat you with respect. If they don't, well, that's your cue to look elsewhere for companionship and love. You're special. Don't waste your time on people who can't see it.

♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Try not to come across as cold. Those to whom you are close know that you sometimes find it hard to express your feelings but people you deal with in the wider world may think you are being rude.

♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Quick decisions are not always good decisions, so take your time and get it right. Someone may be annoyed that you are moving slowly but they will be even more annoyed if you make a wrong move and they have to pay.

♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You may be tempted to pack your bags and go some place where you don't have to deal with so many annoying people but in a few days you will feel better about your current situation. Hang in there.

♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Try not to be too distrustful today. The planets indicate that what a colleague is offering you is not some kind of trick. Most people are honest, so accept the offer and enjoy what it brings.

♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Your head and your heart are pulling you in different directions and, as always, your head will win in the end. Don't be so logical and rational though that you miss the feelings of love that others are sending your way.

♏ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You have worked hard to get to your present position and you are not about to give it up, no matter what others say you should do. Possession is nine-tenths of the law and you are simply not going to move.

♐ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Opportunity will come knocking today and you won't hesitate to let it in. Don't forget, however, that the flipside to opportunity is responsibility. Make sure you know what you are getting yourself into — then go for it.

♑ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Mercury in your sign helps you see things clearly but it's in one of its retrograde phases at the moment, so not everything will be what it seems. Don't accept what others tell you without checking the facts for yourself.

♒ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You may wish you were some place else at the moment but before you start thinking about a change of scene, you have got to think about your cash flow situation. Are you living beyond your means? Do something about it.

♊ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You will be tempted to splash out on something luxurious today but if you are wise, you will resist. Your place in the world does not depend on how much you earn or how much bling you can afford.

♓ Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

You could miss out on a romantic opportunity today, simply because you are too shy to approach someone you fancy. It doesn't take much to smile and say hello, so be brave and make your move. You'll be glad you did. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Canadian Crossword

Across

1. Commercials
4. Allow
7. Funnyman Carney
10. Actor Majors
11. Cosmetic giant
13. French cheese
14. Poor grade
15. Exhaust
16. The Avengers Mrs. Peel
17. Value
20. Food scrap
21. Squeal
25. Idle chit —
28. Opie's Aunt —
29. The Fresh Prince of Bel —
30. Partner for hearty
31. Pub
32. Wing length
33. Has the flu
34. Actor who portrayed 28 across
35. Towel monogram
36. More homey
38. — Paulo, Brazil
40. Brace
45. Alike
48. Fragrance
49. Pitcher's stat.
50. Tortoise rival
51. Telegram
52. — and abet
53. The Cat in the —
54. Wide shoe width
55. Genetic molecule (abbr.)

Down

1. M*A*S*H actor
2. "The — End of the Ocean"
3. Ooze
4. After a while
5. Landlord's threat
6. Beverly Hills, 90210 actress
7. Appendage

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.



Sudoku

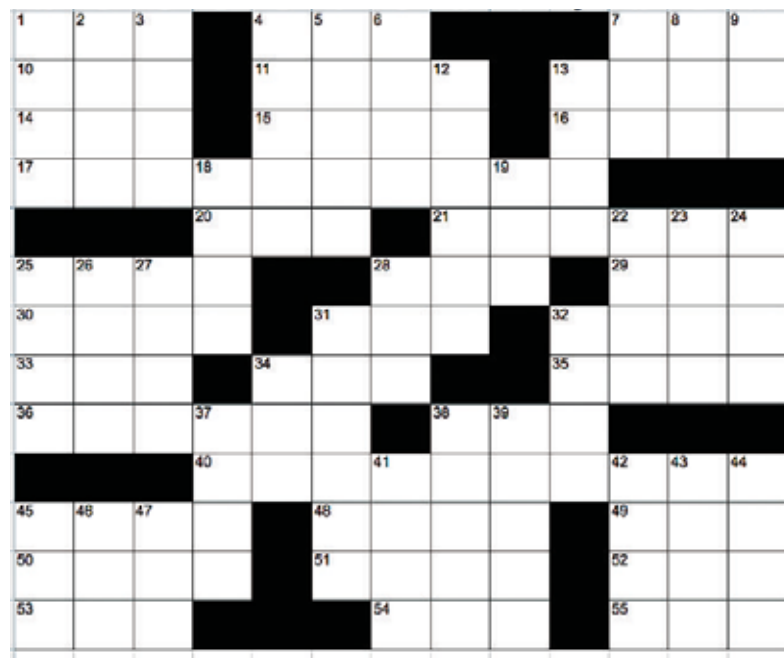
How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

4	3	8	6	9	1	7	5	2
6	1	2	3	5	7	9	4	8
7	5	9	2	8	4	6	1	3
9	2	7	5	4	8	3	6	1
5	6	4	1	3	2	8	9	7
3	8	1	7	6	9	4	2	5
1	9	5	4	7	3	2	8	6
8	7	6	9	2	5	1	3	4
2	4	3	8	1	6	5	7	9

BY BETTY MARTIN



8. Along the edge
9. Afternoon social
12. Tidir
13. Red veggie
18. Routine
19. Self defense lessons —kwondo
22. Record a television show
23. Fibber
24. Sea eagles
25. Elegant

26. Angel headwear
27. — well that ends well
28. Keep out
31. Beg, — or steal
32. Range
34. Soak
37. Psychiatrists comment (2 words)
38. Night time sound
39. Concur
41. Nurse Jackie actress Falco

42. — of the Class
43. Middle daughter on The Waltons
44. Zilch
45. Be quiet!
46. Battery size
47. The A Team actor (word & init.)

Today

9°/4°

Rain

90%

Friday

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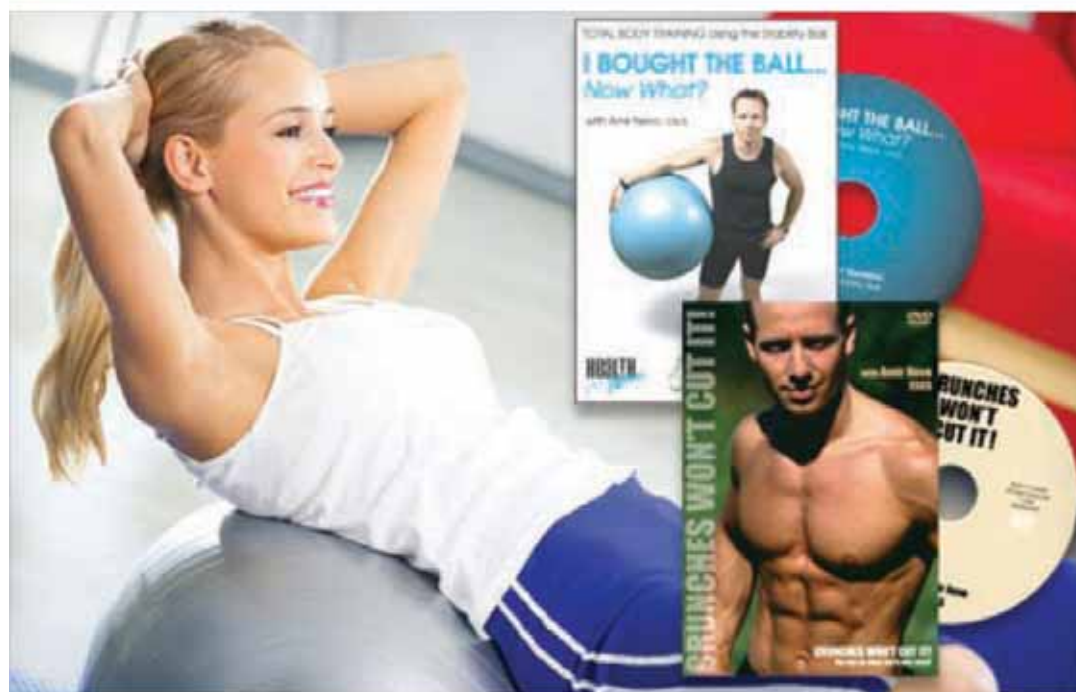
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